

Claims

- [c1] An actuator for releasing a fire extinguishing composition that is stored under pressure in the cylinder of a fire extinguisher, comprising an elongated body made of a single piece, said body having
- (A) a longitudinal chamber that extends through said body, for holding a ram that moves therein and a spring for propelling said ram;
 - (B) a first transverse aperture that joins said chamber, for holding a trigger that releases said spring; and
 - (C) a second transverse aperture that joins said chamber, for holding a member that moves in response to movement of said ram, where movement of said member activates the release of said composition from said cylinder.
- [c2] An actuator according to Claim 1 wherein a microswitch that is activated by said ram is attached at one end of said chamber.
- [c3] An actuator according to Claim 1 wherein a cable that slides in a sheath and is activated by said ram is attached at one end of said chamber.

- [c4] An actuator according to Claim 1 wherein a microswitch or a cable that is activated by said ram is attached at each end of said chamber.
- [c5] An actuator according to Claim 4 wherein a fusible link is attached between said trigger and one end of said body.
- [c6] An actuator according to Claim 1 wherein said member is a plunger that pierces a seal on said cylinder.
- [c7] An actuator according to Claim 1 wherein said member is a rod that depresses a button on said cylinder.
- [c8] An actuator according to Claim 1 wherein said longitudinal chamber, said first aperture, and said second aperture are circular in cross-section.
- [c9] An actuator according to Claim 1 including a ram and a compressed spring within said longitudinal chamber, a trigger within said first aperture, and a member within said second aperture.
- [c10] An actuator according to Claim 1 wherein said body is an extrusion.
- [c11] An actuator according to Claim 10 wherein said extrusion is metal.
- [c12] An actuator according to Claim 1 wherein said body is

made by extruding metal to form a single extruded piece, then removing portions of said single extruded piece.

- [c13] An actuator according to Claim 1 wherein said single piece is cast or molded.
- [c14] A fire extinguisher activated by an actuator according to Claim 1.
- [c15] A stove hood having a fire extinguisher according to Claim 14 mounted therein.
- [c16] A method of making an actuator according to Claim 1 comprising extruding metal to form said single piece and removing portions thereof.
- [c17] An actuator for releasing a pressurized fire extinguishing composition from the cylinder of a fire extinguisher comprising
 - (A) an elongated body having a longitudinal axis, made by removing material from a single piece, said body having
 - (1) a longitudinal chamber that extends through said body, for holding a ram that slides therein and a spring that propels said ram;
 - (2) a first transverse aperture that joins said longi-

tudinal chamber at about a right angle, for holding a trigger that releases said spring; and

(3) a second transverse aperture that joins said longitudinal chamber at about a right angle, for holding a member moveable therein;

(B) a member inside said second transverse aperture, movement of which activates the release of said fire extinguishing composition from said cylinder;

(C) a ram inside said longitudinal chamber, where movement of said ram within said longitudinal chamber effects movement of said member within said second transverse aperture;

(D) a compressed spring inside said longitudinal chamber between said ram and one end of said body, where said spring moves said ram when said spring is released; and

(E) a trigger inside said first transverse aperture that releases said compressed spring.

[c18] A fire extinguisher activated by an actuator according to Claim 17.

[c19] A hood for a stove having a fire extinguisher according to Claim 18 mounted therein.

[c20] A fire extinguisher comprising

(A) a cylinder containing a fire extinguishing composition that is under pressure;

(B) an actuator for releasing said fire extinguishing composition from said cylinder, said actuator comprising

(1) an elongated body having a longitudinal axis, made of a single piece of extruded metal, said body having

(a) a longitudinal chamber that extends through said body, for holding a ram that slides therein and a spring that propels said ram;

(b) a first transverse aperture that joins said longitudinal chamber at about 90°, for holding a trigger that releases said spring; and

(c) a second transverse aperture that joins said longitudinal chamber at about 90°, for holding a member that activates the release of said fire extinguishing composition from said cylinder;

(2) a member moveable inside said second transverse aperture;

(3) a ram inside said longitudinal chamber, where movement of said ram in said longitudinal chamber effects movement of said member in said second transverse aperture;

- (4) a compressed spring inside said longitudinal chamber between said ram and one end of said body, where said spring moves said ram when said spring is released; and
- (5) a trigger inside said first transverse aperture that releases said spring; and
- (C) a fusible link that releases said trigger at a predetermined temperature.

[c21] A hood for a stove having a fire extinguisher according to Claim 20 mounted therein.